



Marion County R-II High School

District: Marion County R-II Schools

Building Enrollment: 106

Grade Range: 7-12



Building Principal: Mr. Eric Spratt
Address: Box 100
Philadelphia, Missouri 63463-010
Phone: 573-439-5913
Fax: 573-439-5914
E-mail: espratt@marion.k12.mo.us
Website: www.marion.k12.mo.us

A Snapshot of Marion County R-II High School...

Located in Philadelphia, Missouri, Marion County R-II High School is the smallest of only three high schools in Marion County, in the northeast corner of the state. With the elementary (grades kindergarten through six) and high school (grades seven through 12) occupying separate wings of a single building, the campus is home to a total of 234 students. Class sizes range from 12 to 22.

The primary industry in this rural area is agriculture, and many of the school's families commute to neighboring towns to work in manufacturing and business-related jobs. However, at the work day's end, these families return to be a part of a community that is invested in educating its children. Marion County R-II High School is at the heart of that community.

Marion County R-II High School's Mission: "A commitment to excellence in education." The school's goal is to provide a comprehensive education that prepares students to be responsible citizens, pursue higher education, and/or find employment.

Community Commitment to Education

Marion County R-II High School boasts a dropout rate of less than two percent over a five-year period and anticipates graduating 100 percent of its senior class in 2005-2006. An involved community is vital to keeping MCR-II students engaged in school. MCR-II has enjoyed great success enlisting the participation of parents and other community members in the educational process. The school has facilitated this process by promoting a safe, welcoming atmosphere. Workshops and other educational opportunities promote and support parenting skills in order to emphasize the importance of education and learning. From Parents as Teachers to elementary, middle and high school, to General Education Degree Programs, to adult technical training, MCR-II supports a life-long educational process within the community. In return, parents and other community members regularly give of their time, volunteering to make extended learning opportunities available to students. A wealth of community resources strengthen and promote academic programs, family practices and student achievement.

"...optimum learning occurs when students, parents, and members of the school community recognize, value and fulfill their roles in the learning process."

Mirroring the community's involvement in the daily work of Marion County R-II High School, the school's students are actively involved in both the school environment and the surrounding community. Over 90 percent of MCR-II students are involved in academic clubs, service organizations, and extracurricular activities, such as Key Club, Spanish Club, Student Council, Art Club, Future Business Leaders of America, Future Farmers of America, Future Career and Community Leaders of America, and National Honor Society. Family and consumer science students work as volunteers at Parents as Teachers special events and group meetings with young children. The Towards No Tobacco Team presents at a regional health fair sponsored by area health professionals. Students are actively involved in school-sponsored organizations that support a variety of local and national charities, participating in fundraisers and other public service efforts.

Staff and Curriculum to Support Student Learning

Marion County R-II High School's faculty and staff are committed to providing an excellent education to their students. MCR-II faculty members are encouraged to continue their educational goals through higher college degrees, out-of-district workshops, conferences, in-house professional development days, and collaborative efforts with other professionals. Monthly in-district professional development topics include refining and spiraling curriculum, reading and writing across the curriculum, Missouri Assessment Program Training, and ongoing technology training.

“Quality professional development opportunities for teachers assure quality educational opportunities for students.”

Marion County R-II High School is a small rural school that challenges its students with a rigorous academic curriculum and strives to meet the needs of all students. Students are engaged in challenging learning experiences that foster development of knowledge and skills necessary for continuous learning beyond the school setting. Courses are outlined by curricula that enhance student learning opportunities and achievement as measured by local and state standards. The district has expanded high school course offerings through the use of interactive television and through dual credit classes with Hannibal-LaGrange College and Moberly Area Community College. Students who have credit shortages may earn additional credits through the evening Persistence to Graduation Program at Hannibal Area Vocational Technical Center, the Independent Study Program at the University of Missouri, or independent study classes with local teachers. MCR-II students are thriving academically. The school district has been designated Accredited with Distinction for three of the past four years.

Technology that Maximizes Student Achievement

Technology is at the center of research and discovery learning across the curriculum in grades 7-12 at Marion County R-II High School. MCR-II implements technology as a resource maximizing student achievement through integration into curriculum, classroom instruction, and school management. A high school computer lab contains 26 new personal computers, four laptop computers, Smart Board and projectors, video and scanning capabilities, laser-color printers, and other technological equipment appropriate for educational uses. Classrooms contain PCs and internet capabilities, and vocational departments maintain technology equipment, as well.

Effective use of technology provides unique learning opportunities for students. Desktop publishing students assist kindergarten students in publishing a cookbook. Junior high students create a culture fair book. The multimedia class gathers information from senior students to create an elaborate PowerPoint presentation with live video footage, music and narration that serves as a prelude to the high school graduation ceremony. The freshman class publishes the school newspaper, and technology students maintain the school web page and publish the school yearbook electronically. In addition, the technology department requires many students to create electronic portfolios in web design in lieu of traditional resumes.

Gold Star Practices – What’s Working at Marion County R-II High School

- ★ *An eight-block system allows adequate time in each class period for research, discovery learning assignments, performance events and other teaching/learning activities that require extended time, and enables graduates to earn 32 high school credits.*
- ★ *Teacher-maintained websites and e-mail provide sustained two-way communication between the classroom and home.*
- ★ *Departments of the school community unite to focus teacher and student attention on MAP week. In the fall, students who achieve at advanced and proficient levels are recognized at an assembly, given a party at the community center, and have their names posted on the MAP Wall of Fame.*

Marion County R-II High School embraces current trends in education and keeps an eye toward the district’s future needs to promote life-long learning opportunities for its students and its community.